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Church Records

of

Tedrow [Spring Hill], Ohio

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

SPRING HILL, OHIO

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In February 1838, Moses and Elizabeth Ayers moved from Clinton Township, Wayne County, Ohio, bringing with them letters from the Clinton, now Shreve, Church.

In 1839 Joseph Jewell moved from the same place bringing a letter, and Hannah his wife brought a letter from the Baptist Church.

The country was then new and thinly inhabited, but in 1840, Brother Ayers and Jewel gathered their neighbors together and read to them on Christianity.

They met in their homes, which were log cabins, as their were neither meeting houses or school houses in the Country.

Brother Ayer's Cabin was a home for travelers, especially people traveling from the eastern part of Indiana to points in Ohio.

In 1840, Brother and Sister Fusselman, going from DeKalb County, Indiana to their old home in Trumbull County, stopped with Brother Ayers, and they soon learned from each other that they both loved and feared the Lord. Brother Ayers learned from them that Brother Benjamin Elton lived in their section of the country and was preaching there.

Brother Fusselman invited Brother Ayers to come to their meeting and set the time when Brother Alton would be with them. Brother Ayers went through the woods and mud, a journey of two days hard travel. He met with the brethren and prevailed upon Brother Alton to come and hold a short meeting. Brother Alton set the time when he would come which was March 1841. He started on Horseback and on the first day of his trip his horse became lame and he had to walk the rest of the way. He reached the home of Samuel B. Darby on Bean Creek six miles from his appointment late Saturday night and remained there over night, and walked the rest of the way reaching Brother Ayer's in time for the meeting on Lord's Day. Brother Alton preached six discourses in Brother Ayer's cabin and baptized seven. With these and the few Christian living in the community the church was organized. The original members were: Moses Ayers, Dr. S.C. Ayers, Elizabeth Ayers, Sophrona Ayers, Joseph Jewel, William Jewel, Hannah Jewel, Joseph Wells, Eliza Wells, Jared Beebe, Sarah Beebe, Deliah Miley, Jacob Miley, Malinda Jones, William Jones and Lydia Boyers, Sarah Culbertson, Sarah Call.

Brother William Jones was among the number baptized and being a man of ability was soon a great help to the brethren. The Church was called the "Brush Creek Church."

In 1841, Brother William Jewel and family moved from Wayne County, Ohio, adding still more strength to the church. The elders were now Brother Moses Ayers, Brother Joseph Jewel and Brother William Jewel. Brother William Jewel often preached and added some to the church.

In September 1844, the church at Ripley, Holmes County, sent Brother James Porter to hold a meeting. He met Brother Alton and together they held a meeting of five days, baptizing several and greatly encouraging the brethren.

The Lord's day meetings were held in the homes, going from place to place over a territory of six or seven square miles. When they had what they called a big meeting, it was held in either Brother Ayers' or brother Jewel's cabin.

In 1845, Brother Alton held another meeting of three days doing much good and baptizing eight or nine. This was Brother Alton's last meeting held in this part of the country. He went to Wabash, Indiana, where he died soon after.

In the fall of 1847, Brother James Hadsell and Brother R. Faroat came from De Kalb County, Indiana and held a meeting of four days in Bro. Ayer's new frame house. A number were added to the church. In the Spring of 1849, Bro. C. J. Blackman held a series of meetings going from house to house. Seventeen were baptized and the brethren greatly encouraged.

In the spring of 1851, Bro. James Porter came from Holmes County to visit friends and held several short meetings, baptizing ten or twelve. In September Brothers Myron Streeter and Hubbard held a short meeting with several baptizms. In May 1852 the annual meeting was held by Brothers Hadsell and Faroat. A splended meeting, and a number were baptized. The same fall Brothers Topliff and Hoffman held a few days meeting, and Brother Topliff moved and preached one-third time for three years. In the spring of 1853 the brethern decided to build a meeting house on a lot bought from William Culbertson, one and one-half mile south of Spring Hill. The building was enclosed and meetings held in it during the warm weather. Brother Benjamin Lockhart held a good meeting in the new building with a number of additions. In the spring of 1855 the building was moved to Spring Hill and finished. The lot was given by M.D. Hibbard. This was the first church building in Spring Hill and Dover Township. In May 1857 the annual meeting was held by Brother Hadsell and brother L. L. Carpenter. Twenty two were baptised. Brother Carpenter was then a young man. He was just beginning to preach but did a great amount of good not only in Spring Hill, but the entire country. About the same time Brother L. B. Smith and brother J. W. Shepherd both members of the Spring Hill Church began preaching and became, as did Brother Carpenter, great preachers. Often visiting preachers came for short meetings.

Some of who are brothers Lockhart, Van Vorees, Bamford, John Errett, William Dowling, R. Winbigler, and O. J. Britton. Several of these became pastors at a later date, of whom were Brothers Bamford, Van Vorees, and Winbigler, also as pastors were Brothers Chase, Horner, Riddle, and White.

Brother Romeo Cook preached for the brethren part time during 1871 and 1872. Brother Richard Winbigler began his pastorate in 1873, and continued as pastor for five years.

In the spring of 1878, Brother Farnum Gibbs, assisted by Brother Winbigler held a very successful meeting of three weeks.

As Brother Winbigler desired to move to another field, Brother Gibbs was asked to take his place and became pastor May 1st 1878, remaining as pastor until April 1880. During his pastorate the annual meeting and institute was held from Sept.12th to Sept.16th,1879. The Principal speakers being Brothers White, Hays, Gibbs, L. B. Smith, and L. L. Carpenter. The service on Lord's Day was held in the grove northeast of the Church and attended by over six hundred. Brothers Carpenter and Smith did the preaching.

Brother E.T.Hays became the pastor April 25th, 1880 and Brother Gibbs moved to another field leaving all departments of the Church in splendid condition. As had Brother Gibbs done, Brother Hays preached every Lord's Day afternoon at Pike.

The membership of this Country church later became identified with either the Delta or Winameg Church.

Early in 1881, the church decided to build a new house of worship, and the following building committee was selected: J.S.Riddle, David Ayers, Dr. G.P.Campbell, George Wentz, James Kahle, and W.F.Blatherwick.

The old house to be moved back and the new one which was to be built of brick placed where the old one stood. Otto Philliper was hired to do the mason work, and E.C. Swartz the plastering. Work was begun in the early fall and completed the last of January 1882. The whole cost of the house, exclusive of hauling material, which was donated, was $3288.00.

The dedication service was held February 12, 1882, by Brother L.L.Carpenter. The entire amount of the money was raised at the morning service, and enough more to buy a bell. Brother Carpenter preached in the evening and offered the dedicatory prayer.

The last week in August several visiting ministers came, each giving a splended discourse, the principal speaker being Brother William Dowling. Ministers present were: Brothers Neslage,Cook,Gordon,Dowling and Hays. The annual meeting was well attended. The Lord's Day service being held in the grove with Brother Dowling as speaker.

Masterful sermon. The year closed with a meeting conducted by Brother Hays. A large number was added to the church. Early in 1883, Brother C.I.Blackman came from Indiana and continued the meeting for two weeks, baptizing many.

On July 5th, Mrs Knowles of Toledo came and spoke on the Christian Women's Board of Missions. and organized a ~~a~~ society of seventeen members. Officers chosen were:-Sister Eliza Ayers,president;Sister Adda Boyers,Secretary; Sisters Mary Jane Hibbard and Tillie Hays Vice presidents; and Sister Ann Ayers,Treasurer. These good women held their meetings each month for a long period of time, and did much good for ~~m~~ missions at home and abroad.

Temperance work was not neglected by men or women. Many temperance lectures were delivered from time to time and pledges signed.

Just before the close of Brother Hay's pastorate the church to have Brother Jacob V.Updike from Bluffton,Ohio come for a three~~e~~ weeks meeting beginning February 1st,1884. Brother Updike preached wonderful gospel sermons and baptized thirty four and took into membership several from other churches.Brother E.S.DeMiller was one of those baptized and was soon doing outstanding work in the church and later became one of the outstanding ministers in the brotherhood.

Brother A.C. Bartlett began his ministry May 25th,1884. The annual district missionary meeting was held from October 2nd to the 5th, with the following visiting pastors on the program:- Alanson Wilcox of Cleveland, President, Brothers Knowles,Roe,Faunce,Kemp,Stewart,and Metzler. Brother Bartlett held a series of meetings from January 18th,1885 to February 8th,1886,with twenty baptisms, and several by letter from different churches. Brother Bartlett remained as pastor for one year.

On November 8th,1895, Brother O.Q.Oviatt began his ministry and remained as pastor two years.During the winter of 1885 and 1886, Brother Oviatt held a good meeting with twenty five baptisms.

In December 1887, Brother Loomis came from Butler Indiana,remaining as pastor a few months, and in January 1888,held a good meeting with ten additions.

August 8,1888, Brother S. Metzler became pastor. The annual meeting was held from August 16th to 20th, conducted by Brother J.V.Updike and J.E.Hawes singer. The meeting was held-in Brother Updike's tent and attended by many visiting ministers, who were on the program, and on Lord's Day the congregation numbered one thousand. There were several confessions and baptisms. In February 1890,Brother Starr held a two weeks meeting with fifteen baptisms and two by letter.Brother Metzler continued as pastor two years.

In January 1891, Dr Z.W.Shepherd became pastor.During his pastorate three meetings of two weeks duration were held. He conducted one meeting himself and later Brother Hanselman and Brother Loomis did the preaching. More than sixty were added to the church in these meetings.
The fiftieth anniversary of the church was held in May 1891,(the speakers not being able to come in March).
It was a four days meeting with several visiting ministers and former members present. The Lord's Day service was held in the grove with an estimated fifteen hundred present. Brother Carpenter did the preaching.

Brother C.A.Kleeberger became pastor in 1894 and remained with the church four years. He resigned on the account of Mrs Kleeberger's failing health.Brother John Cronenberger then became pastor, later moving to the State Of Washington where he met death by drowning. Brother Walter Hayden was pastor for one year.Then came Brother Frank D.Draper,who now lives in Ada,Ohio. Our next pastor was Brother A.W. Fortune,this being his first pastorate. For many years his home has been in Lexington,Kentucky,where he is connected with the college.

Brother J.E.Moxley followed Brother Fortune as pastor.He is still living in Ohio.Brother L.E.Hoskins came in 1906,leaving here for Oregon in 1909,where he died some years later.

Brother C.H.Earenfight was the next pastor and now lives near Cincinnati. Brother George Johnson was pastor in *** 1912. He now lives in Michigan. Brother John H.Hoag came in 1915 and later moved to Washington where he died. Brother J.A.Wharton was pastor for one year,living during the time in Wauseon. Brother W.A.McCalla was here one year then moved back to Belle Center,Ohio,where he still lives. Then Dr C.L.McConkey preached for the church nearly two years. Brother William Stahle was with the church not more than three months.Evangelist C.C.Maple was pastor several months and was followed by Brother Ewing, who was pastor*of*the*Lyons*Church with the church six months. Brother E.P.Kempher,who was pastor of the Lyons Church became pastor for half time service here and after six years became full pastor at Lyons.The pulpit was then occupied for a few months by W.J.Amstutz.Then came brother R.S.Rains who later moved to Camp Bellsburg,Indiana,where he is pastor. He was followed by our present pastor, Brother Frank Kerns, who began his ministry here in 1937.

During the stay of the greater number of pastors successful meetings were held by them,but several evangelists held outstanding campaigns. Dr. Charles Scoville held, as to attendance and numbers of additions the most remarkable. This was in 1898.

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One young man who was baptized by Dr. Scoville was Brother L Encil/Miley who has for many years been a great success as pastor and evangelist. Other evangelists were Brothers C.G.Ribble,C.E.Rostifer,W.R.Moffit,Thomas Cooksey,F.A.Wright, and Victor Hovis.

As is true everywhere there are many changes in the membership.Death and removals and the addition of new families make these changes,but it is still the Church of Christ and the same gospel is preached. Many descendants of some of the Charter members, and of those who became members in the first years of its organization are working loyally in the same place and for the same cause.

The church was built on the sure foundation,Christ Jesus, can never perish.

Lovingly submitted by Mrs J.A.Carroll.

Sunday March 2nd.

Morning service 10:30
Frank D.Draper,Ada,Ohio
Sermon:"The Four Essentials."
Pot-luck Dinner 12:00 W.C.T.U.Hall.

Afternoon Service 2:30

J.J.Whitehouse,Angola,Indiana.
Special music,Pettisville School.

Evening service,7:45

W.J.Keener,Disciples of Christ Church,Bryan,Ohio.
Sermon: " Looking Forward."
Special music by the Defenseless Mennonite Quartette,
Archbold, Ohio.

PROGRAM

Centennial Celebration
1941
Tedrow Chruch

OF CHRIST

Feb.23--March 2 Wauseon,Ohio, R.d.

Sunday February 23- 10:30

Alva Ross Brown,Pres.Johnson Bible College,Kimberlin Heights,Tennessee.
Sermon: " Both Lord and Christ."

Evening service 7:45

Grant W.Spear,Central Christian Church,Toledo,Ohio.
Sermon:"The coming sovereignty of Christ".
Devotions and special music by the Winameg Church of Christ.
Services each evening at 7:45

Monday Feb.24th--Earl P. Kempher,Lyons,Ohio.
Devotions and special music by the Winameg Church of Christ.

Tuesday. Feb.25th- C.H.Earenfight,Cincinnati,Ohio.
Devotions and special music by East Chesterfield Church of Christ.

Wednesday Feb.26th- J.E. Poer,First Church of Christ,Bryan, Ohio.
Sermon- The Gospel for to day.
Devotions and special music by First Christian Church, Wauseon, Ohio.

Thursday,February 27- J.H. Moxley,Brunswick,Ohio.
Devotions and special music West Franklin Church of Christ.

Friday February 28th- Frank D.Draper,Ada,Ohio.
Sermon: " The Courage to Follow Jesus."
Devotions and special music by The Delta Church of Christ.

Saturday, March 1st Speaker to be supplied.
Sermon: The first hundred years.
Devotions and music by Lyons Church of Christ.

Mrs. Phillips

History of

Spring Hill Methodist Episcopal Church

Centennial Edition

1842-1942

Tedrow, Ohio

Dedicated Aug. 7, 1887
Picture Taken 1907

Preface

From earliest time, "Spring Hill" of Fulton Co., Ohio, seems to be a name received from the hill and the Spring beloved by the Indians frequenting the place.

A post-office originally located in the pioneer Tedrow home on the road now known as the State Road, was later housed in the Schu- home between the Tedrow residence and Spring Hill and finally this post-office was moved to the later named place.

As there was a Spring Hill post-office already established in another part of the state, the Tedrow office retained its original name and the town of Spring Hill became Tedrow - as indicated on the maps of the County.

F. S. N.

HISTORY OF
SPRING HILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1842-1942

Histories of Fulton County, Ohio, state that the Spring Hill Methodist Episcopal Church in Clinton, later Dover Township, had its inception, probably, in 1842, and for a while held meetings in the log schoolhouse just east of Spring Hill. Prominent early members were James Gay, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Tedrow, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lott." From the same source of information, we learn that Isaac and Elizabeth Tedrow came from Holmes County, Ohio, in 1836, and located on Section 9 in Clinton Township. This home could not have been far from the old Indian trail extending in a northwesterly direction from the vicinity of Wauseon of later growth, to Spring Hill, now called Tedrow, and circling the big pond just east of the pioneer village last mentioned; there meeting the Maumee and Angola Indian trail, over which many of the early settlers had reached their destination, for this was the main route of travel, east and west, through the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Lott had settled in Pike Township in 1835 and a year or two later moved to a place which was in Dover Township after that township was established in June, 1843.

One regrets that so little is known of the activities of this early organization and of its members. Of the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Bayes located north of what later became the village of Wauseon, it is said their log cabin was the home of the pioneer preachers and was for a time the church building. Mrs. William Bayes, before her marriage in 1834, was Mary Tedrow, and one likes to think that Mrs. Isaac Tedrow likewise kept the latch string out for the passing pioneer preachers, who soon ministered to the spiritual welfare of the early settlers wherever they were found.

At first these itinerant ministers were probably connected with a Michigan Conference and a few years later received their appointments from North Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which conference was organized in 1840, to Waterville Circuit of the Maumee Valley. Waterville mission as late as 1836 included Wood, Lucas, Henry, Hancock, Ottawa and Sandusky Counties. The vicinity of Spring Hill was at first a part of Lucas County, Ohio, and it is known that ministers serving Wood County of Waterville Circuit, also visited parishes as far west as West Unity and probably points beyond this Williams County town.

"The first regular itinerant Methodist preacher of Delta appointment, Waterville Circuit, was the Rev. C. Brooks. He was followed by Shortiss and Coleman, Brooks and Flemming being on the year before. Presumably the first presiding elder was John James, a good preacher and a very

sharp debater. The next preachers were A. Coleman, Charles Thomas and Hatch James, who was succeeded by John J. Kellam. A man named Campbell traveled the circuit; then Liberty Prentiss and Cushman; then William Thatcher and Samuel Mower. T. J. Pope was preacher in 1845, and Thomas Barkdull, presiding elder."

In August, 1847, the North Ohio Conference formed a new mission, called Clinton, consisting of Delta, York Center, William Bayes of Clinton Township, Lutes in German Township, Gorham and Chesterfield. (*See Standard History Fulton Co., O., 1920, Vol. I, p. 398*).

It will be noticed that Spring Hill is not mentioned as belonging to this newly formed mission. This may be accounted for by the fact that a few years after the organization had been completed, the Spring Hill charge numbered but five, until Milton Spring located in said town and four of this family united with the local church. At this date (1853) there was no church building in Spring Hill and the little band of Methodists worshipped in the log schoolhouse east of the settlement, as did other denominations.

B. Herbert (1817-1895) traveled Clinton Mission in 1847, and again T. N. Barkdull was presiding elder.

1848, Rev. A. Foster was pastor and G. Breckenridge, presiding elder.

1849, the name of the Mission was changed to Chesterfield Circuit.

1851, James McKern was pastor and Wm. C. Pierce, presiding elder.

1852, John Crabbs and A. Hollington (1826-1899) were the preachers.

1853, James Evans and John Frounfelter were the preachers.

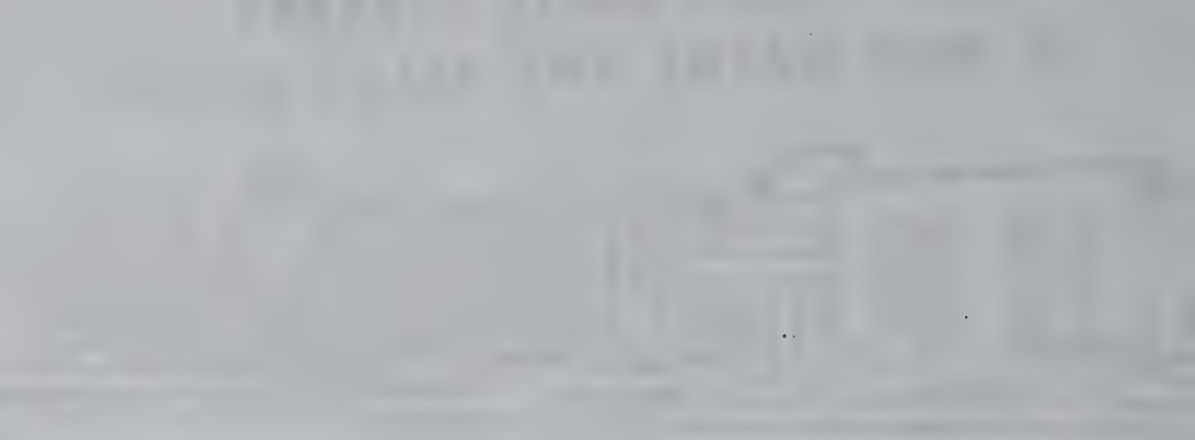
1854, James Evans and J. W. Thompson were the preachers, and David Gray was presiding elder.

1855, the circuit was first named Delta Circuit, with Martin Perky, (1819-1903) pastor, who also traveled the circuit in 1856. Other pastors of this circuit were W. W. Winter (1822-1895) and D. D. S. Reagh (1830-1875); D. D. S. Reagh and G. W. Money, perhaps others. (*See Standard History of Fulton Co., O., 1920, Vol. I, p. 398*).

"It was a lofty heroism which they displayed. Mounted on horseback, with saddle bags of ample dimensions serving as wardrobe, library, larder and medical dispensary, they went forth braving storm and danger for the small pay of about twenty cents a day." Chills, fever, the loneliness of the "six mile woods" and even the terrorism of the "Black Swamp" failed to check them in their efforts to establish and serve churches in this primitive abode.

When the above named men traveled their respective circuits, the roads of the county which became Dover Township in 1843, were about as nature made them. There were no "worked roads" in 1840. Mrs. Hibbard wrote that they were little better than Indian trails.

In 1837 there was but one Methodist Church in the Maumee Valley. It was built that year in the county seat town of Maumee. Lack of churches necessitated the holding of camp meetings such as the Rev. N. B. C. Love described in an article printed in a local paper and abstracted for Church History, Chapter XXV, Vol. I, p. 504, Standard History, Fulton Co., Ohio, 1920. Our pioneers had to go to the county seat town



of Maumee for milling and transacting legal business. It seems safe to state that they attended camp meetings when "several circuits would unite under a presiding elder and the circuit preachers" in holding such meetings, selecting a central and desirable location for the occasion. From thirty or forty miles they came, built tents of logs, enclosing the auditorium within a space sometimes comprising an acre of ground. The writer of these historic events gives a graphic picture well worth reading, but too long to copy in this review.

Union Church

In 1860 or 1861 there was builded by the United Brethren Class of Spring Hill on a lot situated just northeast of the schoolhouse square, originally intended to be the courthouse square, a small frame church edifice. Mrs. Mortimer D. Hibbard's journal supplies the date of the dedication of same, as June 30, 1861, by Rev. C. Briggs. The writer of this review has always understood that the Methodists united with those of the United Brethren denomination in the erection of this church home. The members of the last mentioned society were older, perhaps more numerous and possessed of more of the means with which to contribute to the worthy project. It seems their gifts were larger than the amount contributed by the Methodist Episcopal pioneers and the control of the new church passed to their United Brethren brothers and sisters. However, both organizations were supposed to share equally in the privileges of the sanctuary. The pastors of the two denominations occupied the pulpit on alternating Sundays, but frequently there were Sundays when no minister was present to deliver a sermon and a prayer meeting service was conducted at the appointed hour.

A local minister called "Bro. Clark" who probably was Ira Clark, then owner of the land contained in the farms (1942) of Everett Spring and Will Stevens, officiated at many funerals in the U. B. Church and sometimes preached the Sunday morning sermon.

When the Sunday School was organized it was a union school and for years it was in a flourishing condition. Mr. Gillett and Stephen Eldredge were early superintendents of same and later C. M. Spring served in this capacity with Adam Gype acting as assistant superintendent.

Christmas time was always properly observed by the Sunday School, with a well prepared program preceding the distribution of gifts with which the huge Christmas tree was loaded. Upon one of these occasions a large white ship took the place of the usual Christmas tree. Always there was a spirit of rivalry between the communicants worshipping in the two church buildings in Spring Hill. If, as sometimes happened, a gold watch hung on one of the Christmas trees, this fact became a matter of common knowledge and those of the envied congregation did a bit of strutting, justifiable or not.

Easter time also called for a special program and appropriate celebration and in the summer, Sunday school picnics were held in the grove just west of Ottokee.

Quarterly meetings were of great importance to early Methodism. Members from the various appointments on the circuit attended in goodly

numbers, many remaining in the homes of the local brethren on Saturday night that they might enjoy the services and Christian fellowship of the following day. In connection with a business meeting Saturday afternoon there was a religious service usually conducted by the presiding elder. At one such meeting held in Archbold about fifty years ago, the elder failed to appear and the young pastor who was in the habit of using written sermons was somewhat embarrassed. With him he had but one such sermon and that one was primarily written for the edification of young people. His audience was composed of adults who probably found some food for thought in their pastor's inappropriate address. On Sunday morning a "Love Feast" was held, after which the elder of the district preached a sermon, followed by a "communion" service. Frequently, upon these momentous occasions, there was another sermon in the afternoon. Social intercourse lightened their burdens and to the fullest extent they enjoyed the unbounded hospitality the Quarterly Meeting occasions afforded.

Members of the Spring Hill charge are known to have attended these week-end meetings at Chesterfield, Ottokee, Morey's Corners, and also at Ai and Tinie's Corners in the '60's, and in February, 1864, when Spring Hill was selected as the place for holding the regular Quarterly meeting, one family of six, three sons being home on furlough from Civil War service, entertained nine guests on Saturday night, two ministers having been taken care of the previous night in this hospitable home. (*See Diary of Ellen Spring.*)

In these pioneer days and indeed for a much later period, evangelistic endeavors in the church known as "protracted meetings," often prolonged for many weeks, were conducted by the pastor each year at his numerous appointments. The minister and perhaps his family were entertained in some home, when he labored in a locality other than where he resided.

Perhaps the most notable of such efforts and the one most often mentioned by the early Methodists of Spring Hill, were the meetings under the pastorate of Rev. Charles Hoag, the winter of 1868. On February 7 of that year, pastor and people engaged in a service at the church, after which they went to Bean Creek or Tiffin River, a distance of several miles, for the purpose of immersing those converts of sufficient courage and devotion to submit to the rites of Christian baptism when for the purpose it was necessary to cut a hole in the ice.

Mrs. Allie Zelner of Toledo, writing in 1937 of the early days of the Tedrow (Spring Hill) church said, "The United Brethren and M. E. Churches met together in the former's church when I was 10 years old and Rev. Hoag was the pastor. (This would seem to be in 1866).

"At the age of 12 years, I was baptized in Bean Creek in January, when they had to cut three steps down into the ice. I, with others, sang, O How Happy Are They Who Their Savior Obey. After the service all went to a farm house nearby for dinner, after which meeting was held and then we went to our homes.

"The following September over 100 were taken into the church but

Pictures 1, 3, 7, and 9, of the M. E. Church were taken in June, 1942. (2) Rev. Col lett. (4) Rev. Pimlott. (5) Rev. and Mrs. Gordon. (6) Mrs. Pimlott. (8) Rev. Abel M. Corey, pastor as early as 1869 and as late as 1871.

on account of the church building being small, services were held in the grove."

The United Brethren church was plain and today we would consider it quite uncomfortable for it was heated by two small wood stoves, one on either side. It was lighted by oil lamps and the uncushioned seats were made with straight backs. Nevertheless, it was often filled to capacity by those of all walks of life, young and old, saint and sinner. The sermons, exhortations and prayers, touched the hearts of those present. Sinners turned to the Lord for salvation and were gloriously converted.

The following is Rev. Hoag's report to Ottokee Circuit, Quarter ending May 30, 1868. "The good Lord has mercifully preserved us as a circuit during this quarter. The health of the people has been excellent, and none have died this quarter.

Received into the church on probation during the quarter, forty-seven. May the Lord keep them all faithful to the end.

There is a tolerable degree of spirituality existing on the circuit. Let us continue to labor and pray for the increase in spirituality in our own hearts and the hearts of the people and especially that the hundred probationers received during this quarter and the one preceding, may never fall away, but endure to the end, that all may be saved, a happy company in heaven with their humble pastor, Charles Hoag."

At the fourth Quarterly Conference he reported "Special attention has been paid to the children in catechism and instructing them."

During the depression years of the '70's, the women of the church sought to contribute both socially and financially, supplementing the efforts of the men in promoting the interests of the local society. They had well learned the value of their united efforts during Civil War times, when in interest of the northern cause, Wednesday became "Aid Society" day until the boys in blue returned to their homes after the fall of Richmond.

In the summer of 1870, there was great interest manifested in the "Mite Society" which in August of that year was held on the 3rd, 17th, and 31st, at the homes of Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Clark and Mr. Kahle, respectively. Other homes opened to the Mite Society upon later dates were those of Mr. Lathrop, Mr. Cook, Mr. Smellie, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Whittaker and Mr. Somers.

Lettie (Anderson) Borton of Morenci, Michigan, remembers attending a "Mite Society" at the home of Milton Spring and also in the Cook home after the wedding of Lyman Cook and Jennie Schwarts and again following the wedding of Cyrus Cook and his first wife, Mary.

Ottokee Circuit, 4th Quarterly Conference, August 23, 1873, Rev. L. A. Belt, presiding elder; M. E. Blizzard, pastor in charge: "The following were elected a board to consider the expediency of securing ground and erecting thereon a church edifice for the benefit of the three societies of Ottokee, Spring Hill and North Dover. These brethren were clothed with power to purchase, estimate and build: Stephen Eldredge, A. Lathrop, Milton Spring, John Van Arsdale, John Hofman and Curtis Stoddard."

The brave band of Spring Hill Methodists generously contributed in the erection of the Ottokee M. E. Church building, and the officials

Copy paragraph beginning — *In recording the —
(to and including)
the changing organization of the Circuit of which
Spring Hill was a part. Originally it belonged to Toledo
District, Central Ohio Conference. From 1863 to 1872 the
Circuit was "designated as the Ottokee Circuit and em-
braced many church societies throughout the county; in 1873
it became the Swanson Circuit; in 1876 it was again called
Ottokee Circuit and included societies at Ottokee, Spring
Hill, Pettisville, Archbold and Pike Center. September, 1899, it
became known as the Pettisville Circuit and embraced
societies at Pettisville, Spring Hill, Burlington, Archbold and
Ottokee. In August, 1884, it was attached to Defiance
District and became known as Archbold Circuit including
Archbold, Burlington, Ottokee, Pettisville, Spring Hill."

See Standard History of Fulton Co., O., 1920,
The Ottokee Circuit was formed 1: 506, 507.

continue

of the Toledo district, of which Ottokee Circuit was a part, brought pressure to bear, aiming to merge the two Methodist classes. The effort was futile and those in the project should have realized the impossibility of same. Spring Hill was much the stronger of the two organizations and usually contributed more than the amount given by Ottokee class for pastoral support.

For two decades or more (1861-1881) the partnership with the U. B. Class was fairly satisfactory.

The Spring Hill group of Methodists continued to worship in the U. B. edifice until they possessed a church home of their own. For several years their dissatisfaction with the situation in which they found themselves had been steadily growing. It must have been about 1883, when many of those affiliated with United Brethren denomination, especially their young people, joined the flourishing temperance society in Spring Hill, known as the Good Templar's lodge. This was a secret organization and the U. B. Church, being radically opposed to all secret orders, had no choice but to sever the connections with their more liberally minded brethren, who then naturally affiliated with the Sunday school meeting in the other church building of the town, known as the Disciple, later called Christian Church.

There seemed to be no alternative. Early in the winter of 1887, it was definitely decided that the only solution of their problems was to erect a chapel in which to continue the work so dear to their hearts.

* In recording the interesting events of more than three decades of church development, we have passed unnoticed the changing organization of the Toledo District, Central Ohio Conference, of which Spring Hill was until 1884, a part.

The Ottokee Circuit was formed March 7, 1863 ". . there were present the following named persons, members of the M. E. Church, viz.: Rev. Elnathan Govett, P. E.; Rev. W. H. Taylor, P. C.; Michael Handy; Amos Hill; R. C. Ely; Milton Spring; Stephen Eldredge; Matthew McCaskey; Moses Hay, Stephen Disbro and J. N. Nash," who was chosen secretary; UPON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. MANY RECORDS WERE SIGNED BY Milton Spring AND ALSO by his SON, C.M. SPRING. LATER L.N. COX WAS SECRETARY. The quarterly conference minutes of this circuit, 1863-1887, recorded in one book, have been preserved to this day, abstracts from same having been printed in the History of Fulton Co., Ohio, to which reference has previously been made. The succession of preachers and presiding elders there listed follows:

Preachers: W. H. Taylor (1825-1890), V. Pond (1823-1883), Charles Hoag (1830-1908), H. Vangundy; A. M. Corey (1833-1875), M. E. Blizzard; E. A. Berry; D. Bowers; A. D. Newell; A. S. Van Buskirk; H. C. Gavitt; T. H. Hines; W. F. Maltbie; John Omerod (1824-1906); E. H. Snow; A. Barker; B. F. Gordon.

Presiding Elders

It will be noticed that T. N. Barkdull served in this capacity in earlier days. "He had great power over an audience, and was deeply pious. He labored as presiding elder, college agent and pastor, but was stricken down and died when the church was anticipating years of successful labor from

him." The presiding elders were: Elnathan Gavitt (1809-1896), Samuel Lynch (1807-1887), T. H. Wilson (1818-1883), T. N. Barkdull; L. A. Belt (1826-1907; P. S. Donaldson; W. G. Waters; S. L. Roberts (1829-1908).

The names of prominent members during this period as stewards, class leaders, local preachers, trustees, superintendents and the like may be found in the same Fulton County history, referred to previously. (1: 355, 360.)

At the first conference of Ottokee Circuit, Rev. Elnathan Gavitt agreed "to accept the public collection for his support on this circuit," after the meeting of delegates from Spring Hill, Chesterfield, North Chesterfield, Ottokee, McKaskey's, Etna and Ai had resolved "that the brethren will try and support preaching among us." Mr. Gavitt was presiding elder, and the preacher-in-charge was to be William H. Taylor, who for serving those small and scattered societies was to receive $230 a year. On September 10, 1863, it was reported "that there is no Sabbath school within tthe limits of the Ottokee Circuit but such as are in union connection with other denominations." In 1867 there were four union schools. In 1868, the strength of the societies of the circuit were, Spring Hill, 43 members; Chesterfield, 20 members; Ai, 8 members; Morey's Corners, 8 members; Ottokee, 27 members; Etna, 6 members. In 1869 the preacher-in-charge received $375 salary; and the presiding elder $60. In 1872, the pastor's report to the conference read, "We found the charge in a very discouraging nature. The heart becomes sick. We have been exhorting the friends to trust in God and expect better times; that the Great Head of the church would hear and answer the cries of the people." Despite discouragements, the Methodist Church went forward, built churches at Ottokee, Spring Hill and other places after that.

Building the Church

Having decided, as before stated, to build a church home, all obstacles were courageously met.

As soon as conditions were favorable, a number of men with teams and bobsleds, journeyed to Whitehouse, Ohio, and procured the necessary amount of stone for the foundation of the proposed wooden structure. Alfred Shaffer said that when the sleds were loaded, it was evident that the snow covering the ground was not liable to last long, since rain was already falling. He, with some of the wisest of the party, did not remain in their beds for their accustomed amount of rest. They got an early start for home, reaching same with their precious loads, while some of the late risers had to make another trip for their load of stone.

At this time Benjamin F. Gordon was pastor. The following are copies of his reports to his quarterly conference, at this date a part of Defiance District, Archbold Circuit.

Central O. Conference

Defiance District Archbold Circuit

March 2, 1887, Second Quarterly Conference, Archbold, O.

Pastor's Report: "The Society at Spring Hill are moving in the erection of a new building and have elected the following brethren as trustees, who were approved by the quarterly conference: C. M. Spring, L. N. Cook, William A. Eldredge, F. Whitaker, L. F. Waid. As a ju-

Local Licensed Ministers

*In an editorial of The Christian Advocate, dated July 16, 1942, much credit is given the early Methodist licensed local preachers serving the pioneer societies. The article stated that of late years local ministers have had little responsibility in a good many conferences.

The earliest and best known of this class of preacher, who lived with in the territory of what in 1850 became Fulton County, was Uriah Spencer, a brief biography of whom is given in the history of First Methodist Episcopal Church of Hanover, published in 1935.

Also there was Elisha Trobridge, "a trusted and efficient local preacher". In 1835, in his residence was organized the First Methodist Episcopal society of Delta, Ohio.

Other local preachers of the pioneer Hatterville Circuit have been mentioned in various church histories and probably there were some connected with the Delta Circuit of later years.

In the ~~Berlin Circuit~~ Quarterly Conference records (1863-1887) mention is made of a local preacher, until Aug. 22, 1868, Stillman Coleman, "an exhorter," passed examination

[illegible]

dicion: (?) and building committee, the following brethren have been elected and approved by the Quarterly Conference, viz: C. M. Spring, L. N. Cook, M. L. Eldredge."

Pastor's Report, following quarter, Burlington, Ohio:

"The class at Spring Hill has been putting forth an extra effort towards the erection of their new church and are progressing fast toward completion."

The building of a new house of worship was a big task for the members of the church as the people had very little ready cash in those days. But they possessed religious fervor and devotion and had faith that with God's help it could be done. They were ready to make the sacrifice and erect a house of worship of their own. Those who could not give money gave work and material. The hauling of the stone for the foundation of the building was all donated.

It was with great pride and religious gratitude that in August, 1887, the church was dedicated, Leroy Belt officiating, assisted by S. L. Roberts.

At this date Benjamin F. Gordon was pastor. Under date of July 6, 1937, from Lima, Ohio, he wrote, "I came to your church Oct., 1886. He also then stated the church cost $2,000.00, seven hundred of which was raised at the dedication of same" and added "all timber for church, except shingles, were donated, the hauling of timber and stone was also donated."

Fifty years after the dedication, Rev. Gordon said, "The church was instituted and organized in less than a week's time. In January he had visited the home of Albert Eldredge. This was on Monday. When opportunity came he asked his brother why he was not attending church, and was much surprised to hear him say he would not attend until the church of which he was a member, had a building of its own. Asked how badly he wanted a church home, he offered to subscribe $200.00. Later his brother-in-law pledged the same amount. By Friday of that week, enough money was promised to justify proceeding with the new project. On the following day 13 teams for hauling stone for the foundation of the church from Whitehouse, Ohio, were promised and by Tuesday night enough stone was on the ground."

"Enough timber was donated for the building and benches. Even the window frames were donated. The shingles were bought as were the seat ends, which were purchased in Fayette, where also plans for the benches were obtained. The seats were made in the Spring Hill planing factory."

The pulpit, Rev. Gordon said, was practically made in Gype's furniture store in Archbold, Ohio, where the pastor lived. He did not remember the name of Gype's man who worked on this pulpit, the top of which was a packing box Rev. Gordon used when moving to Archbold Circuit. It is a piece of Putnam County ash board. The walnut came from Cook's saw-mill trash pile.

A Smead furnace and bell were purchased with subscription money (previously mentioned). All subscriptions were paid except $5.00 by a

man unfortunate enough to be overtaken by sickness. He never was asked for his $5.00.

The church was built on the farm where apples were being picked that October day when the new pastor first visited the country town of Spring Hill, now called Tedrow. Later a deed for this piece of ground was given to the trustees of the church.

To these statements of the beloved pastor may be added other well remembered facts. Those carpenters and other laborers engaged in work upon the building that summer, were boarded gratis by those living near the site of construction.

Yes, the women of the church worked with equal enthusiasm and devotion in the erection of the Spring Hill M. E. Church. Not content with cooking for those working on the project and for those frequently entertained at the newly organized social meetings, the ladies donated their time and efforts, when the lathing was being done, proving they could do this bit of construction perhaps as well as could anyone. Probably not all of the labors undertaken and accomplished by these devoted, energetic women have been remembered. In fifty years much water has flowed under the bridge and many things of importance have been forgotten. They were interested in the success of the venture engaged in by the men of the church, and true to form, sought ways and means of lightening their burdens.

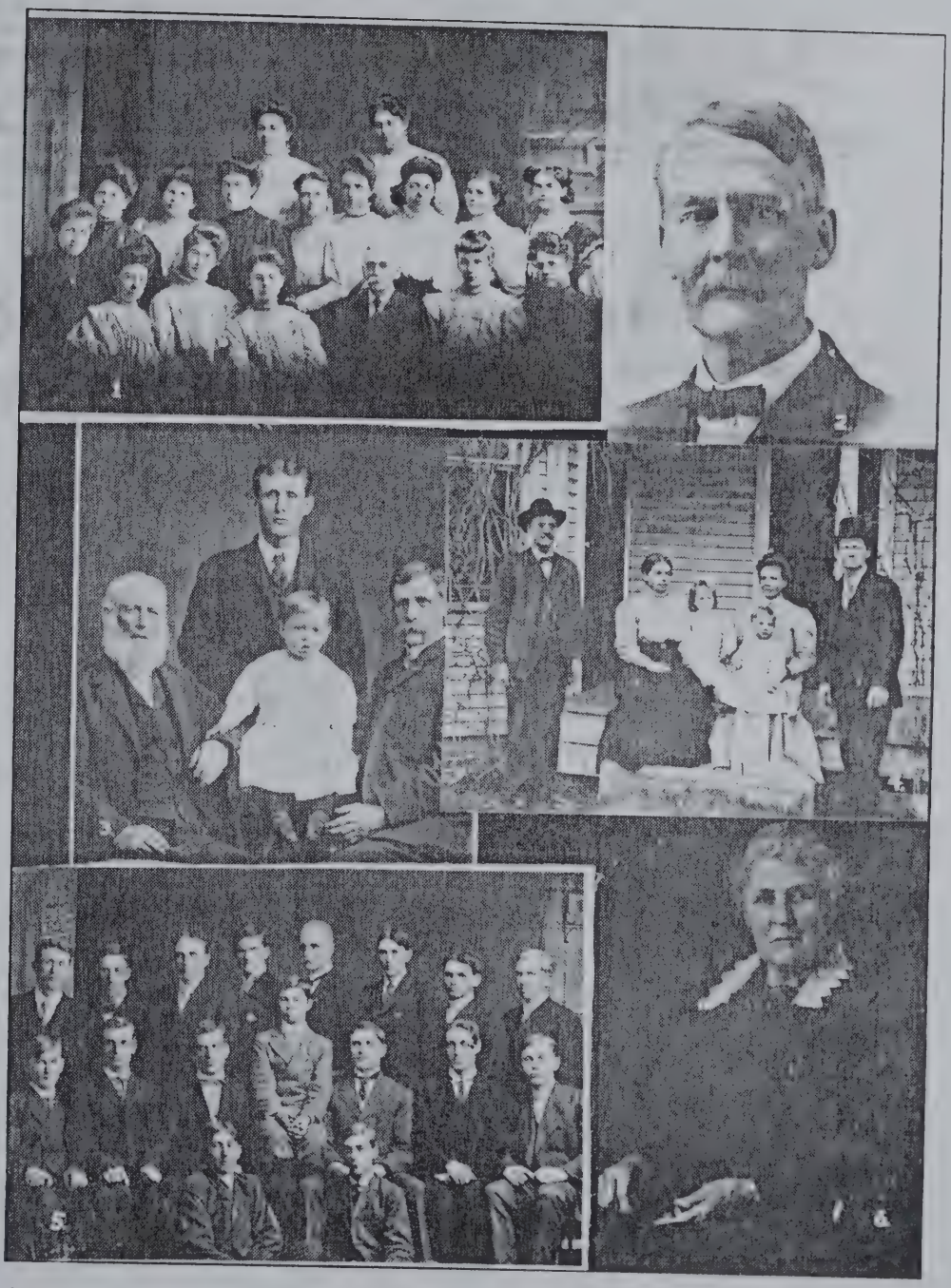
Gladness filled their hearts. They furnished and equipped the new building, even providing a 25 cent broom for same.

On August 6, 1887, the Quarterly Conference of Archbold Circuit was held in the new chapel. That morning some of the men went to the roof to paint on it the name of the church. They were cautioned to take care by placing around their waists rope to save them in case of accident. At least one of the number did not heed the warning and when a scaffolding gave way, Nial Spring fell and was quite severely injured. Thus much of the joy of the achievement was lost.

In "Uncle Jimmie" Riddle's diary, date Aug. 7, 1887, the following statement was entered, "M. E. Church, Spring Hill, dedicated today. Big crowd and splendid service."

The work of Rev. Gordon was more than satisfactory at Tedrow. He was not returned for a second year's work, he stated, because the Presiding Elder, Leroy A. Belt of Delaware, who came to dedicate the new church, was interested in a young man, an Ohio Wesleyan student, by the name of Collett and the elder insisted that Presiding Elder Roberts appoint this student in Rev. Gordon's place.

The succession of ministers since the pastorate of Rev. Gordon is as follows: 1887-1891, W. E. Collett; 1891-1894, Frank Money; 1894-1895, Grant McNeeley; 1895-1897, George F. Kinnear; 1897-1898, John W. Hodge; 1898-1900, Rev. Wiltsie; 1900- William C. Coslet; 190 -1903, John Lucy; 1903-May, 1906, John Pimlott, trans. to N. Y. Conf., near Troy; May, 1906-Sept. 1906, Frank Money; 1906-April 1907, Rev. Shannon; April, 1907-Sept., 1907, E. D. Schad, assisted in revival by E. H.



(1) Sunday School Class of L. N. Cook. (2) Rev. Frank Money, son of Rev. George Money, pioneer M. E. minister. (3) Stephen Eldredge, superintendent of Union Sunday School in 60's with son, grandson and great-grandson. (4) Left to Right, Nial Spring, wife, Epworth social and Sunday School workers Rev. Brackney and family. (5) Sunday School class of C. M. Spring. (6) Mrs. Lou Shaffer, Sunday School teacher and charter member of M. E. Social.

Snow; 1907-1909, W. S. Brackney; 1909-1914, William T. Cordrey; 1914-1917, Rev. Miller; 1917-1918, Rev. DeGroat; 1918-1919, Rev. Whitted; 1919-1921, E. D. Barker; 1921-1923, E.L. Arthur; 1923-1924, Rev Wilson; 1924-1925, Isaac F. Andrews; 1925-1928, P. R. Fox; 1928-1929, Rev. Daugherty; 1929-1931, W. A. Piper; 1931-1933, W. H. W. Webster; 1933-1935, E. E. Roberts; 1935-1937, David Eicher; 1937-1938, Dale McCristy; 1938-1939, E. W. Dickey; 1939-1941, Serge Floyd Hummon; 1941-1942, C. S. Ritchie; R. Custar, recently appointed minister.

Sunday School

Following the dedication of the new church home no record of the Sunday School has been found earlier than that dated Oct. 23, 1887. Prayer was made by the superintendent. Four officers and teachers were present. The total number present was 47; collection 37c. The largest attendance record for the remainder of the year 1887, Rev. Collett pastor, was 73, one week before Christmas and on that date, Dec. 18, the collection was 75 cents.

January 1, 1888, the following officers were elected: Superintendent, C. M. Spring; Assistant Superintendent, Adam Gype; Secretary, Cyrus Cook; Treasurer, Will Fieldmire; Chorister, C. M. Spring; Organist, Florence Spring.

The teachers were: Ida Abbott, Class A; Sarah Spring, Class B; Ida Cook, Class C; Cora (Patterson) Shaffer, Class D, and Frank Abbott, Class 2B.

The boys enrolled in Class A and their ages are: Lyman Abbott, 7; Pearl Pike, 8; Osa Eldredge, 8; Earnest Waid, 6; Earnest Crume, 7; Earnest Shaffer, 5; Orville Eldredge, 9. The names of the girls in this class are Stella Cook, Cora Shaffer, Zola Carter, Annie Waid and Mamie Spring.

In an older boys' class was enrolled Clarence Waid, Eddie Cook, Delbert Case, Herman Smellie, Whitney Abbott, Meek Garman and Everett Spring.

March, 1888, $2.00 were spent for Easter exercises and $5.00 for supplies. June 3, 1888, the attendance (largest of that year) was 94 and the collection was $1.41; present were 8 officers, 75 scholars and 11 visitors.

July 11, 1896, at Quarterly Conference at Ottokee, Rev. Kinnear reported Spring Hill Sunday School had an enrollment of 108; 27 being in the infant class. The average attendance was 75.

When W. E. Collett was pastor of the Spring Hill M. E. Church, this appointment was a part of Archbold Circuit, Defiance District of the Central Ohio Conference.

Rev. Collett was a young man about 21 years old when he began his work on Archbold Circuit. Before coming to this vicinity he had been a student at Ohio Wesleyan University. With him came , his mother and sister. The appointments he served that first year, 1888-89, with apportionments of each are as follows:

Archbold, $125.00; Spring Hill, $175.00; Burlington, $65.00; Pettisville, $50.00; Ottokee, $60.00. Total $475.00.

These apportionments were made at the first Quarterly Conference held at Archbold, Jan. 7, 1888. Besides the pastor only four members of the Conference were present. Spring Hill was represented that day by C. M. Spring and L. N. Cook. Those approved as trustees of Spring Hill charge were C. M. Spring, L. F. Waid, W. A. Eldredge, F. Whittaker and L. N. Cook. C. M. Spring was approved as Sunday School superintendent.

The following year the salary was increased to $500, of which $205 was assumed by Spring Hill charge. Again the salary was increased to $560 for the year ending September, 1890, and for the following year $700 were pledged, Franklin appointment having been added this year to Archbold Circuit.

The Quarterly Conference records for this pastorate bear evidence to the fact that during this time, Spring Hill Church was always represented at these conference meetings. The clay roads of Franklin and German Townships, and the sand of Dover, made these trips anything but joy rides.

The church buildings of Archbold Circuit were valued by the trustees as follows: Archbold, $1200.00; Burlington, $400.00; Franklin, $1200.00; Spring Hill $2000.00; Ottokee, $1200.00. Total $6000.00.

Rev. Collett probably was responsible for the organization of the Spring Hill Epworth League, No. 4421. The first report of same to Quarterly Conference was dated Feb. 14, 1891. At that time there were 41 active and 38 associate members and at the following Quarterly Conference meeting, an increase of 26 members was reported.

For many years the Epworth League continued to grow in numbers and influence. It contributed not only to the spiritual growth of the young people, but to the social interests of the community, as indicated by a report of one event printed in a Fulton County newspaper, probably about 1896, and here copied.

The Spring Hill Epworth League was entertained at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Andre on last Tuesday evening.

It was one of the most enjoyable events of the season. When they open their spacious home for an entertainment it seems everybody wants to go. Before the fashionable hour, the rooms were filled with merry hearted young folks and quite a sprinkling of middle aged—all loving friends of "Uncle Adam" and "Aunt Laura."

"While sparkling wit and merry laughter
Rang thro' the house from base to rafter."

It was an orderly, appreciative company and the preparations of the hostess were so ample and systematic that the unexpectedly large number was served with an elegant supper and the unexhausted supply would have fed many more. Not many private dwellings could so well provide for so large a company — the wide spreading barns and sheds giving shelter and comfort to the many teams that brought the jolly crowd.

Though "Uncle Adam" is in his 81st year, he gave the young people

a hearty welcome and did not retire until the last guest had departed. All declared it a most delightful time—the games, puzzles and music was a happy mingling of the old and the new.

With many good wishes for their host and hostess, the Leaguers departed, feeling that the evening would be a pleasant remembrance forever.

As late as 1908 when Rev. Brackney was pastor, the Epworth League was a strong influence for good.

Officers elected April, 1908, were: President, Ross Andre; First Vice-President, Ed Schad; Second Vice-President, Tena Seiler; Third Vice-President, Hulda Seiler; Fourth Vice-President, Howard Grimes; Secretary, Nellie Spring; Treasurer, Robert Boyes.

A list of membership follows: Chapter No. 4421 Epworth League, Spring Hill, Fulton Co., O., Active Members:

Aldrich, Mary	Kling, Grace	Spring, Nellie
Andre, Ross	Lee, B. E.	Stevens, Anna
Bailey, Elmer	Lee, Kathryn	Stevens, Bess
Bailey, Nora	Partridge, Florence	Stevens, Jessie
Belknap, Clarence	Partridge, Ruth	Stevens, Nelle
Belknap, Floyd	Patterson, Robert	Swartentruber, Hattie
Belknap, Fred	Pike, L. P.	Thurlby, Matthew
Belknap, Zera	Prickett, Ethel	Turner, Muriel
Borton, Edith	Robinson, Grace	Waid, Aden
Boyes, Margaret	Robson, Osie	Waid, George
Rev. Brackney	Russell, Mrs. N.	Waid, Ida
Cook, L. N.	Schad, Ed	Waid, Ruth
Cook, Ralph	Schnall, Bernice	Waid, L. F.
Cordrey, W. T.	Seiler, Hulda	Waid, Marie
Cordrey, W. T., Mrs.	Seiler, Tena	Whetstone, D. M.
Cordrey, Winnie	Shaffer, Flossie	Whetstone, Mrs. D. M.
Eldredge, Horace	Shaffer, Mabel	Whetstone, Millard
Eldredge, Lura	Smith, Bertha	Williams, Delia
Eldredge, Lela	Snyder, Alta	Winzeler, Stella
Grimes, Howard	Snyder Veda	
Grimes, Mabel	Spade, Eunice	

Associate Members:

Aldrich, Joe E.	Seiler, Carl	Spade, Leslie
Layman, Lula	Spade, Glen	Spade, Paul

Rev. Brackney was not only active in the work of the Epworth League, but organized a Bible study class which was of sufficient interest to last for some time following his pastorate.

Having been transferred to a Colorado Conference that his health might be improved and many years of efficient Christian service added to his life span, Rev. Collett was succeeded by Rev. Frank Money, no stranger to many Spring Hill Methodists for he had, when a boy, accompanied his father, Rev. George Wesley Money, a local preacher and from 1856 to 1861 honored in being in traveling connection incidental to large circuits of Northwestern Ohio, only giving up his chosen vocation because of ill health. (*See Williams Co. History*, 1882, *p.* 492).

Frank Money was dearly beloved by his parishioners. Until called to his reward, he was called upon to conduct the funeral services for a large number of the members of the Archbold Circuit.

Time and space forbid chronicling year by year, the achievements of the past 50 years. The Quarterly Conference records from 1863 have been miraculously spared the fate of the majority of such first hand historical references. It is hoped some minister, official or layman will soon suggest a safe place of deposit for these books, perhaps after their valuable contents have been abstracted.

Methodist Episcopal Social

Mention has previously been made relative to the activity of the Methodist Episcopal Social, organized about the time the decision to build a Methodist Church had definitely crystalized into action.

By means of ten cent membership fees; ten cent socials held semi-monthly, afternoon and evening; an oyster supper, a sugar party and an ice cream social; also the making and selling of 67 yards of rag carpet—by these means, August 17, 1887, the treasurer was able to report the receipts to date as $141.44. They had furnished and equipped the church. The list of expenditures also showed that they had purchased four pounds of coffee and one pound of tea.

The amount of coffee and tea used for the dinner following the morning dedicatory service, assures us the statement of Riddle diary mentioned earlier, was no exaggeration. One is also pleased to note the Christian fellowship and good will expressed by one so prominent in the Christian Church.

All through the fifty-five years of its history and to the present date, the Social has continued to function in promoting the spiritual, social and material interests of the church at Spring Hill. As their ranks of faithful workers thinned, others of equal zeal and devotion took their places, working as efficiently as their predecessors.

Of the twenty-five charter members enrolled in 1887, but five are known to be living and of these all but one have found homes in other localities.

We are fortunate in being able to use reports of early anniversary celebrations for this centennial history. The first of these, dated March 5, 1897, is as follows:

The Spring Hill M. E. Social was organized Jan. 27, 1887, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Spring, Tedrow, Ohio.

Mrs. M. K. Waid, now Mrs. Cobb of Morenci, was chairman of the meeting. The usual forms of such meetings were observed. Officers elected: President, Mrs. Ida Cole; Vice-President, Mrs. M. K. Waid; Secretary, Mrs. Ida Abbott of precious memory, who died Oct. 10, 1891; Treasurer, Mrs. Sarah Spring.

Twenty-five names were enrolled and the membership has since in-

creased to about 80. The following are the names there enrolled:

1. Mrs. Ida Cole
2. Mrs. Julia Minich (1833-1900)
3. Mrs. Jennie Cook (1851-1919)
4. Mrs. Albert Eldredge
5. Mrs. Sarah Spring (1851-1901)
6. Mrs. Evel Spring
7. Mrs. Eunice Spring (1810-'04)
8. Mrs. Mary Lathrop
9. Mrs. Nancy Crouch (-1899)
10. Mrs. Allie Carter
11. Mrs. Pike
12. Mrs. Whittaker
13. Mrs. M. K. Waid (-1900)
14. Mrs. Ida Waid
15. Mrs. Lizzie Waid
16. Mrs. Harrington
17. Miss Florence Spring
18. Miss Ora Shaffer
19. Miss Ida Pike
20. Miss Alice Whittaker
21. Mrs. Lou Shaffer
22. Mrs. Ida Abbott (-1891)
23. Mrs. Lida Smellie
24. Mrs. Dora Blizzard
25. Mrs. Tilly Clark (1844-1919)
26. Mrs. Ida Cook (1859-95).
27. Miss Ida Whipple
28. Mr. C. M. Spring (1842-1916)
29. Mrs. Ellen Anderson (1836-20)
30. Mr. Milton Spring (1806-88)
31. Mr. Crouch (-1891)
32. Mrs. Stevens
33. Mrs. S. Eldredge (1824-1898)
34. Mrs. Laura Patterson
35. Mrs. Adam Andre
36. Mrs. Lettie Newcomer
37. Mr. John Lathrop
38. Mrs. Milan Eldredge (1849-97)
39. Mrs. Lou Pike
40. Mr. Lon Whittaker
41. Mr. Albert Eldredge (1848-07)
42. Mrs. William Stevens
43. Mrs. E. A. Kinney
44. Mr. S. Eldredge (1824-1912)
45. Mrs. Peter Minich
46. Miss Celia Abbott
47. Mrs. Alfred Shaffer
48. Mrs. John Minich
49. Mrs. W. C. Gillett
50. Mrs. Sylvester Spring
51. Miss Emma Smellie
52. Mrs. Gavin Smellie
53. Mrs. Kate Williams
54. Mrs. Zina Loveland
55. Mrs. Laura Williams
56. Mrs. A. E. Carter
57. Mrs. J. L. Minich
58. Miss Emma Minich
59. Mrs. A. E. Gillett
60. Miss Esther Lathrop
61. Mr Cyrus Cook
62. Mrs. Collett
63. Rev. Collett (pastor 1887-91)
64. Mrs. Canfield (-1901)
65. Miss Rose Cottrell
66. Mrs. J. D. Aldridge
67. Mrs. A. Gype
68. Mrs. L. C. Cook (-1897)
69. Mrs. Dr. Thompkins
70. Mrs. Isaac Whipple
71. Rev. F. Money (pastor 1891-94)
72. Mrs. Lavina Doriot

The officers for the first ten years were: Presidents, Mrs. Ida Cole, Mrs. Mary Lathrop, Mrs. L. N. Cook, Mrs. C. C. Cook, Mrs. Sarah Spring and Mrs. Evel Spring. Secretaries: Ida Abbott, Dora Blizzard, Josie Gype, Edith Windisch, Ida Waid, Emma Smellie, Jennie Wales and Mrs. Lou Shaffer. Treasurers: Mrs. Sarah Spring, Mrs. Jennie Cook, Mrs. Evel Spring and Mrs. Ora Schnall.

The observance of the twentieth anniversary is recorded in the secretaries book and a clipping of the same from a local newspaper of 1907 has been preserved. According to the book of minutes, the article was written by Mrs. Ellen (Spring) Anderson, assisted by Ora (Shaffer) Schnall, secretary. We are pleased to add a part of this report. It gives

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Upper Left—Quilting Party, church and apple orchard in rear. Upper Right—Mrs. Griffin Cole, first President of M. E. Ladies' Social. Middle Left—Mrs. C. M. Spring, first Treasurer of M. E. Ladies' Social. Middle Right—Social at home of Rev. and Mrs. E. D. Schad. Lower Left—Mr. and Mrs. Milton Spring, members of M. E. Ladies' Social. Four members of their family united with church, 1853, picture taken 1854. Lower Right—Social; at left, standing, Rev. Brackney; seated in front row, Mrs. Brackney, holding child on her lap.

a complete and graphic record of the twenty years (1887-1907) of achievement.

The tenth anniversary seemed to be enjoyed by all present.

Recently the subject of celebrating the twentieth anniversary has been discussed. At the social held at Mrs. Ida Waid's, Nov. 22, 1906, it was brought before the society, voted on and decided affirmatively. Feb. 22, 1907, was chosen for the event. At our January social, committees were appointed to make arrangements to entertain those in attendance.

We will now speak of what has been achieved in the last ten years.

Number of socials, 86. Amount received, $591.68.

In the year 1899, $68.38 was paid for repairing and refurnishing the church.

We have also paid the sexton for his services, advanced money towards the preacher's salary, paid for repairing the parsonage at different times, and defrayed other expenses. Balance in treasury at present time, $62.60.

We are happy to say that during the twenty years we have been engaged in this work, things have moved along harmoniously. There has been a unity of purpose and a steady aim toward success.

Our various offices have been filled acceptably. One of our officers has served seven successive years, another four years and others for different periods of time. We have ever had willing workers among our number who are always ready for every good word and work.

Our pastors (1897-1907) have been Revs. Hodge, Wiltsie, Coslet, Lucy, Pimlott, Money and Shannon.

While we appreciate the efforts of our pastors and their wives, we cannot forget the untiring labors of love of Brother and Sister Pimlott. The kind attention to the sick, the sympathy shown to those in trouble, the good cheer and great zeal in trying to win souls to Christ.

We desire especially to remember those whose names are not on our list, but who have assisted us in various ways, entertained socials and cheered us with their presence many times.

We do not like to pass by unnoticed those who were once with us, but have joined the vast throng in the great beyond.

The first was Milton Spring, aged 82 years, 2 weeks, died June 22, 1888. Following were: Father Crouch, March, 1891; Mrs. Ida Abbott, October, 1891; Mrs. Ida Cook, February, 1896; Mrs. Peter Minich; Mrs. A. E. Gillett; Mrs. Susa Eldredge, February, 1897.

During the last decade our ranks have been thinned more rapidly: Mrs. L. C. Cook, April, 1897; Mrs. Lida Smellie, 1900; Mrs. M. K. Waid, later name, Mrs. Cobb, died June, 1900. She was our first vice-president, a woman of high Christian character and greatly esteemed by our society. Mrs. Stephen Eldredge, March 30, 1898; Mrs. Nancy Crouch, April 26, 1899; Mrs. Canfield, March 24, 1901; Mrs. John Minich, May 3, 1900; Mrs. Julia Minich, September 18, 1900; Miss Celia Abbott; Mrs. Lettie Newcomer; Mrs. Laura Patterson; Mrs. William Stevens, November 4, 1904; Mr. Albert Eldredge, January 16, 1907. Mrs. Sarah A. Spring, one of our first officers, died May 21, 1901.

Resolved that in the death of our beloved sister the social has lost a

valued member, the church an earnest worker, the Sabbath school an efficient teacher and the community a helper in time of need.

September 24, 1904, the oldest member of our social, Mrs. Milton Spring, entered the haven of rest, aged 94 years, 6 months and five days. For the greater part of her life, Mother Spring was earnestly engaged in church work in various departments. She was intensely interested in our social since its beginning and in her declining years nothing seemed to give her greater pleasure than to meet the friends in that capacity.

For twenty years we've scattered seed,
In hopes that it may grow and bring
A harvest for our time of need,
A gift acceptable by our King.

Is there no fruitage for our pains?
Nothing but leaves and branches bare?
Methinks 'tis rich in noble works, ingains
It far surpasses all our care.

In twenty years to come, what then?
On yonder hilltop some of us may rest.
How happy if we hear, well done,
Enter the mansion of the blest.

Celebration of Fiftieth Anniversary of Dedication of Spring Hill M. E. Church, August, 1937

Sunday School, 10:00 A. M. Davis Johnson taught the Men's Bible Class. Attendance 103.

Sunday School was followed by preaching service at 11 A. M. Rev. E. L. Arthur, former pastor, spoke on the subject of Memories. Preceding the sermon there was a duet by Allene and Marylin Crout, the choir loft being filled by a choir of young people, and prayer by Rev. Benjamin F. Gordon, pastor fifty years ago. In his sermon Rev. Arthur recalled that 16 years ago when he was pastor, Brother Milan L. Eldredge was always present in second seat from the pulpit.

A splendid basket dinner was served in the W. C. T. U. hall.

In the afternoon, a goodly number again assembled in the church auditorium. The pastor, Rev. David Eicher, gave the address of welcome to which Rev. Gordon responded. Music, The Little Brown Church, led by Rev. Arthur; an accordion solo by Miss Wilma Jane Eldredge. Some church history of the past 95 years of organized Methodism in Spring Hill, by Mrs. Maddox; duet, Rev. and Mrs. Arthur.

Rev. Lauren Fauver of Holgate charge stated that it was in the Spring Hill M. E. Church he offered himself to the ministry and he had spent happy years of service.

Mrs. Evel Spring of Willowbrook, California, spoke of the labors of the Spring Hill M. E. Social in purchasing the beautiful red ingrain carpet

by means of making and selling 67 yards of rag carpet, the rags for same taken in bundles to the bi-monthly socials, sewed and rolled into balls, the men helping to roll the balls. She also spoke with pride of the fact that the women purchased the clock and chairs and other furnishings and recalled her efforts at teaching the primary class of the Sunday School.

Mrs. Lou Shaffer, another member of fifty years ago, responded, giving a recitation prepared for the Epworth League more than forty years ago, but never given as she was not present upon the occasion for which she had expected to give the reading. The poem was given in a most impressive and capable manner and was enjoyed by all present. Rev. Arthur recalled that it was during his pastorate that the chimney of the church was moved to its present position. It was his privilege to labor with a group of 22 young people, 16 of whom were present at this afternoon service in connection with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary.

Rev. E. E. Roberts stated his experience as pastor of the Spring Hill M. E. Church was recent and short. Four years ago he was appointed to this charge. While he did not live in the community and was otherwise engaged so that as a rule he was present only on Sunday, the church membership was patient and loyal. He did qualify as a minister in that he had a liking for chicken. In his experience in marrying couples he was almost as nervous as one inexperienced minister marrying a young doctor, who, when told to join his right hand with that of the bride, held her by the arm and finding her pulse going at lightning speed, absentmindedly said, "Stick out your tongue." At this the officiating minister as absently said, "We will be dismissed and will conclude the service at the grave."

Mrs. Arthur recalled how the men of the church had cleaned off the plaster of the parsonage hall just before they moved to Tedrow. It was their first charge and judging from the experience of the pastors present upon this occasion, she judged all Spring Hill ministers had been "First Chargers."

In his vein of humor, Alfred Shaffer, member of fifty years ago and earlier, said he judged there had been some truth in what had been said, but could not hear much of what had preceded and did not feel like having anything to say.

Mr. AARON A. Smith spoke of the influence of organized Methodism on the community and his pleasure in worshipping in the Spring Hill M. E. Church.

The meeting was concluded by singing the favorite song throughout the years, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

Miss Ellen Douglas Lucretia Hibbard
1849-1931

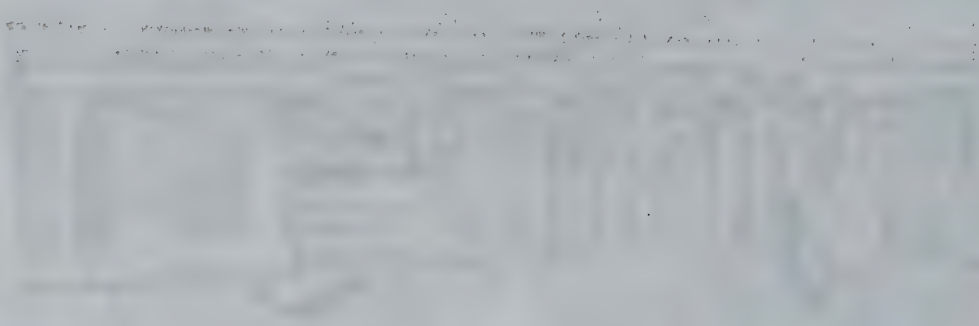
Graduate of Chicago Deaconess Training School. She labored also in St. Louis, Mo., and in Boston, where soon she became principal of the Training School, serving twenty years in last named city. She became superintendent of the New England Deaconess Bible Training School; Editor of Deaconess Journal; Bible teacher; worker in the missions of the city of Boston and was the first deaconess in America to wear the garb in public.

When she returned to Spring Hill, home of her nativity, she became actively engaged in the work of the Methodist Church of that place. Funeral services for her were conducted by her pastor, W. A. Piper, assisted by Revs. W. H. Webster and Kempher. Interment was in Spring Hill Cemetery, Oct. 7, 1931.

Pictures 1, 3, 7, and 9, of the M. E. Church were taken in June, 1942. (2) Rev. Cor lett. (4) Rev. Pimlott. (5) Rev. and Mrs. Gordon. (6) Mrs. Pimlott. (8) Rev. Abel M. Corey, pastor as early as 1869 and as late as 1871.

(1) Sunday School Class of L. N. Cook. (2) Rev. Frank Money, son of Rev. George Money, pioneer M. E. minister. (3) Stephen Eldredge, superintendent of Union Sunday School in '60's, with son, grandson and great-grandson. (4) Left to Right, Nial Spring, wife, Evel, social and Sunday School worker; Rev. Brackney and family. (5) Sunday School class of C. M. Spring. (6) Mrs. Lou Shaffer, Sunday School teacher and charter member of M. E. Social.

Upper Left—Quilting Party, church and apple orchard in rear. Upper Right—Mrs. Griffin Cole, first President of M. E. Ladies' Social. Middle Left—Mrs. C. M. Spring, first Treasurer of M. E. Ladies' Social. Middle Right—Social at home of Rev. and Mrs. E. D. Schad. Lower Left—Mr. and Mrs. Milton Spring, members of M. E. Ladies' Social. Four members of their family united with church, 1853, picture taken 1854. Lower Right—Social; at left, standing, Rev. Brackney; seated in front row, Mrs. Brackney, holding child on her lap.



Rededication

of

THE TEDROW METHODIST CHURCH

at

Tedrow, September 24, 1950

Sunday, September 24, 1950

Tedrow Methodist Church

Tedrow, Ohio

RE-DEDICATION SERVICE

SUNDAY AFTERNOON — 2:30 O'CLOCK

PIANO PRELUDE

*OPENING HYMN "The Churches One Foundation" No. 381

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the word:
From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace for ever more;
Till, with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.
A-men.

*INVOCATION

O God, eternal and ever blessed, who delightest in the assembling of thy people in the sanctuary; receive us graciously as we come into thy house, and grant, we entreat thee, that peace and prosperity may be found within its walls, that the glory of God may be the light thereof, and that we may be satisfied with the goodness of thy house; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

TROMBONE SOLO Curtis Spengler

SCRIPTURE LESSON

VOCAL SOLO Mrs. Nobel Rompel

*HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory" No. 279

God of grace and God of glory, On Thy people
pour Thy power; Crown Thine ancient Church's story; Bring
her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage.
For the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us, Free our hearts to
work and praise. Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage,
For the living of these days, For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness, Bend our pride to Thy
control; Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, Rich in things
and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage, Lest we
miss Thy kingdom's goal, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore; Let the
search for Thy salvation Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving Thee whom we adore.
A-men.

THE ADDRESS — Dr. W. Carl Hickey

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY RESPONSE

ACT OF RE-DEDICATION — Dr. W. Carl Hickey

PRAYER OF RE-DEDICATION — The Minister

DUET — "Bless This House"

*CLOSING HYMN — "Lead on, O King Eternal" — No. 278

Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of march has come;
Hence-forth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home:
Thro' days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King Eternal, We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King Eternal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And Holiness shall whisper Thy sweet A-men of peace;
For not with swords louds clashing, Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy, The heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King Eternal, We follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning Where'er Thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; We journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; Lead on, O God of might.
A-men.

*BENEDICTION

* Denotes people standing.

MORNING WORSHIP — 11:00 O'CLOCK

PIANIST, Miss Marilyn Haskell SPEAKER, Dr. W. Carl Hickey
CHORISTER, Mrs. Orville Rupp MINISTER, Rev. Louis E. Haskell

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

PIANO PRELUDE

*PROCESSIONAL "Holy, Holy, Holy" No. 1

*CALL TO WORSHIP The Minister

*INVOCATION The Minister

CHORAL NUMBER The Choir

*RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 24

MINISTER: The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

PEOPLE: For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

MINISTER: Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place?

PEOPLE: He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

MINISTER: He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

PEOPLE: This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob.

MINISTER: Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

PEOPLE: Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

MINISTER: Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

PEOPLE: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

*THE GLORIA PATRI

DUET

SCRIPTURE LESSON

PASTORAL PRAYER The Minister

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

TRIO

THE OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY RESPONSE

*HYMN "Breathe On Me, Breath of God" No. 180

THE SERMON Dr. W. Carl Hickey

THE LORD'S SUPPER

*THE CLOSING HYMN "Faith of Our Father's" No. 256

*BENEDICTION

* Denotes Congregation standing

HISTORY OF
SPRING HILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1842 — 1950

Histories of Fulton County, Ohio, state that the Spring Hill M.E. Church in Dover Township had its inception probably in 1842, and for a while held meetings in the log schoolhouse just east of Spring Hill. Prominent early members were James Gay, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Warren; Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Fuller; Mr. and Mrs. Newell Newton; Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Tedrow and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lott.

Most of the early preachers were itinerant ministers and were conected with a Michigan Conference, later receiving their appointments from the North Ohio Conference.

In 1860 or 1861 there was built by the United Brethren Class of Spring Hill a small frame Church edifice, on a lot situated just Northeast of the schoolhouse square. The date of the dedication was June 30, 1861 by Rev. C. Briggs. The pastors of the two denominations occupied the pulpit on alternating Sundays. When the Sunday School was organized it was a union school. Mr. Gillett and Stephen Eldredge were early Superintendents and later C. M. Spring.

Rev. M. E. Blizzard was pastor in charge when the Ottokee M.E. Church building was erected. At the 4th quarterly Conference, August 23, 1873 the following were elected in securing ground and erecting there on a church edifice for the benefit of the three societies of Ottokee, Spring Hill and North Dover; Stephen Eldredge, A. Lathrop, Milton Spring, John VanArsdale, John Hofman and Curtis Stoddard. In August 1884 it was attached to the Defiance District and became known as the Archbold circuit including Archbold, Burlington, Ottokee, Pettisville and Spring Hill.

Early in the winter of 1887 it was definitely decided that the only solution of their problems was to erect a chapel in which to continue the word so dear to their hearts. At this date Benjamin F. Gordon was pastor. The following brethren as trustees were approved by the quarterly conference; C. M. Spring, L. N. Cook, William A. Eldredge, F. Whitaker and L. F. Waid.

Enough timber was donated for the building and benches. Even the window frames were donated. The seats were made in the Spring Hill planing factory.

The Church was built on the farm where apples were being picked that October day when the new pastor first visited the country town of Spring Hill, now called Tedrow. Later a deed for this piece of ground was given to the trustees of the church.

On August 7, 1887 the M. E. Church in Spring Hill was dedicated. A large crowd attended the splendid service.

January 1, 1888 the following

officers were elected for the Sunday School: Superintendent, C. M. Spring; Ass't. Superintendent, Adam Gype; Secretary, Cyrus Cook; Treasurer, Will Fieldmire; Chorister, C. M. Spring; Organist, Florence Spring.

The teachers were; Ida Abbott, Class A; Sarah Spring, Class B; Ida Cook, Class C; Cora (Patterson) Shaffer, Class D; and Frank Abbott, Class 2B.

In 1908 when Rev. Brackney was Pastor the Epworth League elected the following officers: President, Ross Andre; 1st Vice president, Ed Shadd; 2nd Vice president, Tena Seiler; 3rd Vice President, Hulda Seiler; 4th Vice President, Howard Grimes; Secretary, Nellie Spring and Treasurer, Robert Boyes.

The Spring Hill M.E. Social was organized January 27, 1887 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Spring in Tedrow, Ohio. Of the twenty-five charter members enrolled in 1887 Mrs. Florence (Spring) Maddox is the only one living. In February 1911 it was changed to the Ladies Aid Society.

On August 29, 1940 the Women's Society of Christian Service was started with 15 Charter members. Of this group they are all living but Mrs. Nora Patterson who passed away July 3, 1947. Seven charter members are still members of the present Woman's Society of Christian Service.

The Women of the Woman's Society of Christian Service worked with equal enthusiasm in the remodeling of the present building. Besides the labor and painting that they did, they put on dinners, socials and bake sales which was turned into the building fund.

The MYF is very active in the Church. They support a student in India, and also many attended Lakeside. They helped in many ways in the building project.

In August 1937 the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Spring Hill M.E. Church was held. Rev. David Eichar was Pastor.

On June 25 to 28, 1942 the Centennial for Tedrow Methodist Church was held. Rev. Rex Custar was Pastor.

Permission was given by the quarterly Conference March 31, 1946 to remodel the present Church building. Nothing was done until July 7, 1949 when the Church Board approved the following Trustees as a building committee: Sanford Nofziger; Harold Kleck; Robert Spengler; Albert Seiler; C. B. Robson and Lowell Gunn. Rev. Louis Haskell, a local boy, is the pastor.

On August 8, 1949 with a crew of about 50 men we raised the Church and began the project of remodeling the building.

We had Sunday School and Church in the W.C.T.U. Hall until January 21, 1950 when we returned to the partly finished basement. On May 21, 1950 we held the first service in the Church Sanctuary.

The remodeling of the Church building had its influence on the attendance of the Sunday School. During the first three months of the Conference Year 1949-1950 the average attendance was 49. During the same time in the Conference year 1950-51 the average attendance was 76, which is an increase of 55%.

PASTORS SINCE 1887

1887-1891	W. E. Collett	1921-1923	E. L. Arthur
1891-1894	Frank Money	1923-1924	Rev. Wilson
1894-1895	Grant McNeeley	1924-1925	Isaac F. Andrews
1895-1897	George F. Kinnear	1925-1928	P. R. Fox
1897-1898	John W. Hodge	1928-1929	Rev. Daugherty
1898-1900	Rev. Wiltsie	1929-1931	W. A. Piper
1900-1901	William C. Coslet	1931-1933	W.H.W. Webster
1901-1903	John Lucy	1933-1935	E. E. Roberts
1903-May 1906	John Pimlott	1935-1938	David Eichar
May 1906-Sept. 1906	Frank Money	1938-1939	Dale McCristy
1906-April 1907	Rev. Shannon	1939-1940	E. W. Dickey
April 1907-Sept. 1907	E. D. Shad	1940-1941	Serge Floyd Hummon
1907-1909	W. S. Brackney	1941-1942	C. S. Ritchie
1909-1914	William T. Cordrey	1942-1944	Rex Cus ar
1914-1917	Rev. Miller	1944-1945	Rev. Anderson
1917-1918	Rev. DeGroat	1945-1946	Leonard Yarlott
1918-1919	Rev. Whitted	1946-1947	Marion Towne
1919-1921	E. D. Barker	1947-1949	M. E. Mattern
		1948-	Lou's Haskell

FINANCIAL REPORT

ASSETS

Individual Contributions	$3,166.94
Organizations	1,325.61
Borrowed Money	2,000.00
	$6,492.55

LIABILITIES

Building Supplies	$3,732.96
Heating and Plumbing	1,138.24
Electric	257.80
Labor	1,070.55
Miscellaneous	293.00
	$6,492.55

OFFICIAL BOARD — TEDROW M. E. CHURCH

JUNE 1950 - JUNE 1951

Trustees

Sanford Nofziger, '51
Harold Kleck, '51
Robert Spengler, '52
Albert Seiler, '52
C. B. Robson, '53-R.L.
Lowell Gunn, '53

Stewards

Reuben Eicher - L.L.
Mrs. Ellis Haskell - L.M., C., R.
Elwood Mock - C.S.
Mrs. Elwood Mock
Mrs. Sanford Nofziger - W.S., F.S.
Mrs. Lizzie Bigbee
Mrs. Orville Rupp
Mrs. Celia Scarborough
Mrs. Grace Spengler - R.L.
Leonard Moden
Mrs. Leonard Moden
Mrs. C. B. Robson.
Mrs. Harold Kleck
Harlan Lawrence
Mrs. Harlan Lawrence
Mrs. Elva Liechty
Mrs. Robert Spengler
Mrs. Herbert Spengler
Curtis Spengler - P.Y.F.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 1, 1950 - June 1, 1951

Pastor		
Superintendent	Elwood Mock	Wauseon, Ohio
Children Teacher	Mrs. Grace Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
Youth Teacher	Mrs. Ellis Haskell	Wauseon, Ohio
Youth Representative	Edith Haskell	Wauseon, Ohio
Adult Representative	Mrs. Gail Andre	Archbold, Ohio
Steward Representative	Mrs. Herbert Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
Members-at-large	Mrs. Lowell Gunn	Wauseon, Ohio
Members-at-large	Mrs. Kenneth Bates	Wauseon, Ohio
Members-at-large	Mrs. Paul Smith	Wauseon, Ohio

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

Superintendent	Elwood Mock	Wauseon, Ohio
Asst. Superintendent	Lowell Gunn	Wauseon, Ohio
Pianist	Mrs. Orville Rupp	Wauseon, Ohio
Asst. Pianist	Mrs. Gail Andre	Archbold, Ohio
Chorister	Harlan Lawrence	Wauseon, Ohio
Asst. Chorister	Paul Smith	Wauseon, Ohio
Secretary	Anna Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
Asst. Secretary	Luana Leininger	Wauseon, Ohio
Treasurer	Robert Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
Cradle Roll Dept.	Mrs. Harlan Lawrence	Wauseon, Ohio
Flower Dept.	Mrs. Grace Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
Home Dept.	Mrs. Ellis Haskell	Wauseon, Ohio

TEACHERS OF CLASSES

1. Sunshine Corner	Mrs. Grace Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
Assistant	Edith Haskell	Wauseon, Ohio
2. Class No. 2	Mrs. Orville Rupp	Wauseon, Ohio
Assistant	Mrs. Lowell Gunn	Wauseon, Ohio
3. Junior Class	Mrs. Kenneth Bates	Wauseon, Ohio
Assistant	Elwood Mock	Wauseon, Ohio
4. Youth Class	Mrs. Ellis Haskell	Wauseon, Ohio
Assistant	Curtis Spengler	Wauseon, Ohio
5. Friendly Class	Lowell Gunn	Wauseon, Ohio
Assistant	Mrs. Sanford Nofziger	Wauseon, Ohio

BUILDING ERECTED IN 1882

1841 -:- 1941

The Church of Christ

At Tedrow (Spring Hill), Ohio

Celebrates

The 100th Anniversary

Of Its Organization

PROGRAM

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Tedrow Church of Christ

Wauseon, R. I., Ohio

FEBRUARY 23 — MARCH 2

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Morning Service—10:30

Alva Ross Brown, Pres. Johnson Bible College, Kimberlin Heights, Tennessee.

Sermon: "Both Lord and Christ"

Evening Service—7:45

Grant W. Speer, Central Christian Church, Toledo, Ohio

Sermon: "The Coming Sovereignty of Christ"

Devotions and Special Music by the Fayette Church of Christ

Services each evening at 7:45

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24—Earl P. Kempher, Lyons, Ohio.

Devotions and Special Music by the Winameg Church of Christ

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25—C. H. Earenfight, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Devotions and Special Music by East Chesterfield Church of Christ.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26—J. E. Poer, First Church of Christ, Bryan, Ohio

Sermon: "The Gospel For Today".

Devotions and Special Music by First Christian Church, Wauseon, Ohio.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27—J. H. E. Moxley, Brunswick, Ohio.

Devotions and Special Music by West Franklin Church of Christ.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28—Frank D. Draper, Ada, Ohio.

Sermon: "The Courage To Follow Jesus".

Devotions and Special Music by Delta Church of Christ.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1—Speaker to be supplied.

Sermon: "The First One-Hundred Years"

Devotions and Special Music by Lyons Church of Christ.

SUNDAY MARCH 2

Morning Service 10:30

Frank D. Draper, Ada, Ohio

Sermon: "The Four Essentials"

Pot-luck Dinner—12:00, at W. C. T. U. Hall.

Afternoon Service 2:30

J. J. Whitehouse, Angola, Indiana.

Special Music, Pettisville School.

Evening Service, 7:45

W. J. Keener, Disciples of Christ Church, Bryan, Ohio.

Sermon: "Looking Forward".

Special Music by the Defenseless Mennonite Quartette, Archbold, Ohio.

A Short History of the Church of Christ Meeting At Spring Hill

In February 1838 Moses and Elizabeth Ayers moved from Clinton Township, Wayne County, Ohio bringing with them letters from the Clinton, now Shreve, Church. In 1839 Joseph Jewel moved from the same place bringing a letter, and Hannah, his wife, brought a letter from the Baptist Church.

The country was then very new and thinly inhabited but in 1840 Brothers Ayers and Jewel gathered their neighbors together and talked and read to them on Christianity. They met in their homes, which were log cabins, as there were neither meeting houses or school houses in the country. Brother Ayers' home was a home for travelers, especially people traveling from the eastern part of Indiana to points in Ohio.

In 1840 Brother and Sister Fusselman, going from DeCalb County, Indiana to their old home in Trumbull County, stopped with Brother Ayers, and they soon learned from each other that they both loved and feared the Lord. Brother Ayers learned from them that Brother Benjamin Alton lived in their section of the country and was preaching there. Brother Fusselman invited Brother Ayers to come to their meeting and set the time when Brother Alton would be with them. Brother Ayers went through the woods and mud, a journey of two days hard travel. He met with the brethren and prevailed upon Brother Alton to come and hold a short meeting. Brother Alton set the time when he would come which was March 1841. He started on horseback and on the first day of his trip his horse became lame and he had to walk the rest of the way. He heached the home of Samuel B. Darby on Bean Creek six miles from his appointment late Saturday night and remained there over night, and walked the rest of the way, reaching Brother Ayers in time for the meeting on Lord's Day. Brother Alton preached six discourses in Brother Ayers cabin and baptized seven. With these and the few Christians living in the community the church was organized. The original members were: Moses Ayers, Dr. S. C. Ayers, Elizabeth Ayers, Sophrona Ayers, Joseph Jewel, William Jewel,

Hannah Jewel, Joseph Wells, Eliza Wells, Jared Beebe, Sarah Beebe, Deliah Miley, Jacob Miley, Malinda Jones, William Jones, and Lydia Boyers, Sarah Culbertson, Sarah Call. Brother William Jones was among the number baptized and being a man of ability was soon a great help to the brethren. The church was called the Brush Creek Church.

In 1841 Brother William Jewel and family moved from Wayne County, Ohio, adding still more strength to the church. The elders were now Brother Moses Ayers, Brother Joseph Jewel and Brother William Jewel. Brother William Jewel often preaching and adding some to the church.

In September 1844 the Church at Ripley, Holmes County, sent Brother James Porter to hold a meeting. He met Brother Alton and together they held a meeting of five days, baptizing several and greatly encouraging the brethren.

The Lord's Day meetings were held in the homes, going from place to place over a territory of six or seven miles square. When they had what they called a big meeting it was held in either Brother Ayers' or Brother Jewel's cabin. In 1845 Brother Alton held another meeting of three days doing much good and baptizing eight or nine. This was Brother Alton's last meeting held in this part of the country. He went to Wabash, Indiana, where he died soon after.

In the fall of 1847 Brother James Hadsell and Brother R. Faroat came from De Calb County, Indiana and held a meeting of four days in Brother Ayers new frame house. A number were added to the church. In the spring of 1849 Brother C. J. Blackman held a series of meetings going from house to house. Seventeen were baptized and the brethren greatly encouraged.

In the spring of 1851 Brother James Porter came from Holmes County to visit friends and held several short meetings, baptizing ten or twelve. In September Brothers Myron Streeter and Hubbard held a short meeting with several baptisms. In May 1852 the annual meeting was held by Brothers Hadsell and Faroat. A splendid meeting, and a number were baptized. The same fall Brothers Topliff and Hoffman held a few days meeting and Brother Topliff moved and preached one-third time for three years.

In the spring of 1853 the brethren decided to build a meeting house on a lot bought from William Culbertson, one and one-half miles south of Spring Hill. The building was enclosed and meetings held in it during the warm weather. Brother Benjamin Lockhart held a good meeting in the new building with a number of additions.

In the spring of 1855 the building was moved to Spring Hill and finished. The lot was given by M. D. Hibbard. This was the first church building in Spring Hill and Dover Township.

In May 1857 the annual meeting was held by Brother Hadsell and Brother L. L. Carpenter. Twenty-two were baptized. Brother Carpenter was then a young man. He was just beginning to preach but did a great amount of good not only in Spring Hill but the entire country. About the same time Brother L. B. Smith and Brother J. W. Shepherd both members of the Spring Hill Church began preaching and became, as did Brother Carpenter, great preachers. Often visiting preachers came for short meetings. Some of whom are Brothers Lockhart, VanVorees, Bamford, John Errett, William Dowling, R. Winbigler, and O. J. Britton. Several of these became pastors at later dates, of whom were Brothers Bamford, VanVorees, and Winbigler, also as pastors were Brothers Chase, Horner, Riddle, and White.

Brother Romeo Cook preached for the brethren part time during 1871 and 1872. Brother Richard Winbigler began his pastorate in 1873 and continued as pastor about five years. In the spring of 1878 Brother Farnum Gibbs, assisted by Brother Winbigler, held a very successful meeting of three weeks. As Brother Winbigler desired to move to another field, Brother Gibbs was asked to take his place and became pastor May 1, 1878, remaining as pastor until April 1880. During his pastorate the annual meeting and institute was held from Sept. 12 to Sept. 16, 1879. The principal speakers being Brothers White, Hays, Gibbs, L. B. Smith, and L. L. Carpenter. The service on Lord's Day was held in the grove northeast of the church and attended by over six hundred. Brothers Carpenter and Smith did the preaching.

Brother E. T. Hays became the pastor April 25, 1880 and Brother Gibbs moved to another field leaving all departments of the church in splendid condition. As had Brother Gibbs done Brother

Hays preached every Lord's Day afternoon at Pike. The membership of this country church later became identified with either the Delta or Winameg Church.

Early in 1881 the church decided to build a new house of worship, and the following building committee was selected; J. S. Riddle, David Ayers, Dr. G. P. Campbell, George Wentz, James Kahle, and W. F. Blatherwick. The old house to be moved back and the new one which was to be built of brick placed where the old one stood. Otto Philliper was hired to do the mason work and E. C. Swarts the plastering. Work was begun in early fall and completed the last of January 1882. The whole cost of the house, exclusive of hauling material which was donated, was $3288.

The dedication service was held February 12, 1882 by Brother L. L. Carpenter. The entire amount of money was raised at the morning service, and enough more to buy a bell. Brother Carpenter preached in the evening and offered the dedicatory prayer.

The last week in August several visiting ministers came, each giving a splendid discourse, the principal speaker being Brother William Dowling. Ministers present were: Brothers Neslage, Cook, Gordon, Dowling and Hays. The annual meeting was well attended. The Lord's Day service being held in the grove with Brother Dowling as speaker. Masterful sermon. The year closed with a meeting conducted by Brother Hays. A large number added to the church. Early in 1883 Brother C. I. Blackman came from Indiana and continued the meeting for two weeks, baptizing many.

On July 5 Mrs. Knowles of Toledo came and spoke on the Christian Women's Board of Missions and organized a society of seventeen members. Officers chosen were: Sister Eliza Ayers, President, Sister Adda Boyers, Secretary, Sisters Mary Jane Hibbard and Tillie Hays, Vice Presidents, and Sister Ann Ayers, Treasurer. These good women held their meetings each month for a long period of time and did much good for missions at home and abroad.

Temperance work was not neglected by men or women. Many temperance lectures were delivered from time to time and pledges signed.

Just before the close of Brother Hays' pastorate the church voted to have Brother Jacob V. Updike from Bluffton, Ohio come for a three weeks meeting beginning February 1, 1884. Brother Updike preached wonderful gospel sermons and baptized thirty-four and took into membership several from other churches. Brother E. S. DeMiller was one of those baptized and was soon doing outstanding work in the church and later became one of the outstanding ministers of the brotherhood.

Brother A. C. Bartlett began his ministry May 25, 1884. The annual district missionary meeting was held from October 2 to the 5th, with the following visiting pastors on the program:

Alanson Wilcox of Cleveland, president, Brothers Knowles, Roe Faunce, Kemp, Stewart, and Metzler. Brother Bartlett held a series of meetings from January 18, 1885 to February 8 with twenty baptisms, and several by letter from different churches. Brother Bartlett remained as pastor one year.

On November 8, 1885 Brother O. Q. Oviatt began his ministry and remained as pastor two years. During the winter of 1885 and 1886 Brother Oviatt held a good meeting with twenty-five baptisms.

In December 1887 Brother Loomis came from Butler, Indiana remaining as pastor a few months, and in January 1888 held a good meeting with ten additions.

August 8, 1888 Brother S. Metzler became pastor. The annual meeting was held from August 16 to 20, conducted by Brother J. V. Updike and J. E. Hawes, singer. This meeting was held in Brother Updike's tent and attended by many visiting ministers, who were on the program, and on Lord's Day the congregation numbered one thousand. There were several confessions and baptisms. In February 1890 Brother Starr held a two weeks meeting with fifteen baptisms and two by letter. Brother Metzler continued as pastor two years.

In January 1891 Dr. Z. W. Shepherd became pastor. During his pastorate three meetings of two weeks duration were held. He conducted one meeting himself and later Brother Hanselman and Brother Loomis did the preaching. More than sixty were added to the church in these meetings.

The fiftieth anniversary of the church was held in May 1891, (the speakers not being able to come in March). It was a four days meeting with several visiting ministers and former members present. The Lord's Day service was held in the grove with an estimated fifteen hundred present. Brother Carpenter did the preaching.

Brother C. A. Kleeberger became pastor in 1894 and remained with the church four years. He resigned on account of Mrs. Kleeberger's failing health. Brother John Cronenberger then became pastor, later moving to the state of Washington where he met death by drowning. Brother Walter Hayden was pastor for one year. Then came Brother Frank D. Draper who now lives in Ada, Ohio. Our next pastor was Brother A. W. Fortune, this being his first pastorate. For many years his home has been in Lexington, Kentucky, where he is connected with the college.

Brother J. H. E. Moxley followed Brother Fortune as pastor. He is still living in Ohio. Brother L. E. Hoskin came in 1906, leaving here for Oregon in 1909 where he died some years later. Brother C. H. Earenfight was the next pastor and now lives near Cincinnati. Brother George Johnson was pastor in 1912. He now lives in Michigan. Brother John H. Hoag came in 1915 and later moved to Washington where he died. Brother J. A. Wharton was pastor for one year, living during the time in Wauseon. Brother W. A. McCalla was here one year, then moved back to Bellecenter, Ohio where he still lives. Then Dr. C. L. McConkey preached for his home church nearly two years. Brother William Stahle was with the church not more than three months. Evangelist C. C. Maple was pastor several months and was followed by Brother Ewing who remained with the church six months. Brother E. P. Kempher, who was pastor of the Lyons Church, became pastor for half time service here and after six years became full time pastor at Lyons. The pulpit was then occupied for a few months by W. J. Amstutz. Then came Brother R. S. Rains who later moved to Camp Bellsburg, Indiana, where he is pastor. He was followed by our present pastor, Brother Frank Kerns, who began his ministry here in 1937.

During the stay of the greater number of pastors successful meetings were held by them but several evangelists held outstanding campaigns. Dr. Charles Scoville held, as to attendance and num-

ber of additions, the most remarkable. This was in 1898. One young man who was baptized by Dr. Scoville was Brother Encil L. Miley who has for many years been a great success as pastor and evangelist. Other evangelists were Brothers C. G. Ribble, C. E. Rostifer, W. R. Moffitt, Thomas Cooksey, F. A. Wight and Victor Hovis.

As is true everywhere there are many changes in the membership. Deaths and removals and the addition of new families make these changes but it is still the Church of Christ and the same gospel is preached. Many descendants of some of the charter members and of those who became members in the first years of its organization are working loyally in the same place and for the same cause. The church built on the sure foundation, Christ Jesus, can never perish.

Lovingly submitted by Mrs. J. A. Carroll.

MY LITTLE CHURCH

My little church, so humble, small and plain,
Where year by year I've worshipped there, what gain—
What lifts I've had upon a weary road,
How many lightenings of a heavy load;
In every pew I courage read, and grace,
Because of those who sat each in his place
Faithful and true, until the very end,
And every one of them to me a friend.
The pastors in the pulpit who have stood
For God and right, and everything that's good,
In solemn train they, too, come back and say:
"Forget not what we've said, watch on and pray."

My little church, so humble, plain and small,
I would not change you for the finest all
You've been to me I cannot well define,
Lifting my soul to Him of life divine,
And so to me it is a holy place,
In which I oft recall each vanished face
Of those I loved, who by the crystal sea
Are watching, waiting there to welcome me.
O little church, the peace and hope you've given
When many times my soul with grief was riven!
Love can not fully measure or express
Your holy mission to uplift and bless.

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